1 00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:17,590

2 00:00:17,590 --> 00:00:22,060 We are going to, I think, cut this story a little bit.

3 00:00:22,060 --> 00:00:27,820 I will tell you that I stayed in England 3 and 1/2 years.

4 00:00:27,820 --> 00:00:32,200 And after 3 and 1/2 years, I came to the United States.

5 00:00:32,200 --> 00:00:37,210 And Max, he was here already 11 months.

6 00:00:37,210 --> 00:00:39,010 Toby was here to a year.

7 00:00:39,010 --> 00:00:40,570 Because while I was in England, they

8 00:00:40,570 --> 00:00:42,820 both wanted to go to Israel.

9 00:00:42,820 --> 00:00:45,230 And there was so much fighting there.

10 00:00:45,230 --> 00:00:47,500 And although I've been sorry many times,

11 00:00:47,500 --> 00:00:51,010 I told them if they go to Israel, they'd go without me. 00:00:51,010 --> 00:00:53,230 I am too young to go into another war.

13 00:00:53,230 --> 00:00:54,580 I still hear the bombs.

14 00:00:54,580 --> 00:00:55,900 I can't.

15 00:00:55,900 --> 00:01:00,130 So they went here just to convince me to go to Israel.

16 00:01:00,130 --> 00:01:02,590 Needless to say, we're still here, all of us.

17 00:01:02,590 --> 00:01:04,010 They went to Cleveland?

18 00:01:04,010 --> 00:01:06,910 They went to New York.

19 00:01:06,910 --> 00:01:11,620 And then first Max moved to New York

20 00:01:11,620 --> 00:01:15,340 because he heard of opportunities

21 00:01:15,340 --> 00:01:16,850 which were great for him.

22 00:01:16,850 --> 00:01:22,300 He, thank God, is a very, very successful construction man.

23 00:01:22,300 --> 00:01:26,950 Not-- he has a construction business, a very successful 00:01:26,950 --> 00:01:29,320 business in construction.

25 00:01:29,320 --> 00:01:31,090 And Toby lives in Cleveland.

26 00:01:31,090 --> 00:01:35,770 Married, has two daughters, and she has

27 00:01:35,770 --> 00:01:39,520 three beautiful grandchildren.

28 00:01:39,520 --> 00:01:41,650 And here I am.

29 00:01:41,650 --> 00:01:43,900 I am in California.

30 00:01:43,900 --> 00:01:46,210 I have a husband, a wonderful husband.

31 00:01:46,210 --> 00:01:48,400 I married an Oaklander.

32 00:01:48,400 --> 00:01:51,640 And I have a daughter who is just

33 00:01:51,640 --> 00:01:54,670 about the most wonderful person in my life.

34 00:01:54,670 --> 00:01:57,430 And she has two children that are great.

35 00:01:57,430 --> 00:02:01,120 And a very, very wonderful husband, also a native 36 00:02:01,120 --> 00:02:03,910 Californian.

37 00:02:03,910 --> 00:02:06,520 And what can I say, other than we hope to--

38 00:02:06,520 --> 00:02:09,190 I hope to dance at my Annie's wedding, who

39 00:02:09,190 --> 00:02:12,370 is my granddaughter.

40 00:02:12,370 --> 00:02:17,680 And that's it for us.

41 00:02:17,680 --> 00:02:20,680 How do you think your life now has been

42 00:02:20,680 --> 00:02:23,050 affected by your experiences?

43 00:02:23,050 --> 00:02:27,050

44 00:02:27,050 --> 00:02:29,860 With the exception of the past two hours

45 00:02:29,860 --> 00:02:32,770 that I've been speaking, I don't think I

46 00:02:32,770 --> 00:02:37,330 am terribly emotional about it.

47 00:02:37,330 --> 00:02:39,730 I have told it to many children. 00:02:39,730 --> 00:02:43,150 I've spoken at a few high schools to high school kids

49 00:02:43,150 --> 00:02:47,110 because I think it should be told.

50 00:02:47,110 --> 00:02:51,610 I think it made me a more understanding human

51 00:02:51,610 --> 00:02:52,970 being of human suffrage.

52 00:02:52,970 --> 00:02:57,480

53 00:02:57,480 --> 00:03:02,880 If anything, I am happy to say I'm not a bitter person.

54 00:03:02,880 --> 00:03:06,810 I think it has made me a warmer human being.

55 00:03:06,810 --> 00:03:10,690 Unfortunately, I don't know how I would have been otherwise,

56 00:03:10,690 --> 00:03:14,760 but I think I'm quite sympathetic to people

57 00:03:14,760 --> 00:03:17,880 if they are in pain for any reason

58 00:03:17,880 --> 00:03:20,310 at all, physical or mental.

59 00:03:20,310 --> 00:03:23,280 Is there something

about your experiences

60 00:03:23,280 --> 00:03:28,450 that I didn't ask you or that you think was important

61 00:03:28,450 --> 00:03:30,220 that we didn't touch on?

62 00:03:30,220 --> 00:03:33,920

63 00:03:33,920 --> 00:03:35,790 I don't think so.

64 00:03:35,790 --> 00:03:40,310 I think that we can't go into more details

65 00:03:40,310 --> 00:03:42,425 because we would need about six weeks.

66 00:03:42,425 --> 00:03:44,780 Sure.

67 00:03:44,780 --> 00:03:49,670 I think mainly I did tell you about things.

68 00:03:49,670 --> 00:03:53,150 There are a lot of people along the way that

69 00:03:53,150 --> 00:03:57,230 were both wonderful and terribly hateful.

70 00:03:57,230 --> 00:04:00,950 But I think you got the idea of it. 72 00:04:04,830 --> 00:04:09,390 And you'll never know where your parents are?

73 00:04:09,390 --> 00:04:11,550 I've been told.

74 00:04:11,550 --> 00:04:14,760 And of course Max, he saw my brothers

75 00:04:14,760 --> 00:04:17,220 and my father being killed.

76 00:04:17,220 --> 00:04:23,940 And a Nazi lady, if I can call her that,

77 00:04:23,940 --> 00:04:26,340 told me where my mother was.

78 00:04:26,340 --> 00:04:30,240 So as far as having any hope, are you

79 00:04:30,240 --> 00:04:32,070 saying that anyone is alive?

80 00:04:32,070 --> 00:04:33,330 Definitely not.

81 00:04:33,330 --> 00:04:35,580 No, just the not knowing.

82 00:04:35,580 --> 00:04:36,210 No.

83 00:04:36,210 --> 00:04:38,980 I mean, there is no question about that.

84

00:04:38,980 --> 00:04:41,280 No, there's no doubt.

85

00:04:41,280 --> 00:04:44,220 And you have some relatives in Israel, some cousins?

86

00:04:44,220 --> 00:04:49,320 I have lots of cousins in Israel, yes.

87

00:04:49,320 --> 00:04:52,710 Some there were during the war with me,

88

00:04:52,710 --> 00:04:55,230 some that were just there.

89

00:04:55,230 --> 00:04:57,240 I've been there a few times myself

90

00:04:57,240 --> 00:05:00,630 and certainly hope to go there a few more times in my lifetime.

91

00:05:00,630 --> 00:05:02,610 How often do you see Toby?

92

00:05:02,610 --> 00:05:04,110 Toby?

93

00:05:04,110 --> 00:05:07,980 She is coming here next month, which is March.

94

00:05:07,980 --> 00:05:09,780

I was there last June.

95

00:05:09,780 --> 00:05:12,840

We go on a tennis junket, the two of us.

96 00:05:12,840 --> 00:05:15,210 We're the most compatible two human beings.

97 00:05:15,210 --> 00:05:17,490 You have to be.

98 00:05:17,490 --> 00:05:19,600 And yet we're so completely different,

99 00:05:19,600 --> 00:05:22,650 you wouldn't believe it.

100 00:05:22,650 --> 00:05:25,770 But she is quite a lady.

101 00:05:25,770 --> 00:05:29,700 Thank you, Helen, for sharing all of this.

102 00:05:29,700 --> 00:05:31,110 I'm glad I could.

103 00:05:31,110 --> 00:05:35,070 --experience to hear it all, to know you that much better.

104 00:05:35,070 --> 00:05:38,410 Well, I'm glad of my contribution for the future.

105 00:05:38,410 --> 00:05:40,710 We'll see what happens from here.

106 00:05:40,710 --> 00:05:41,850 That's the important thing.

107

Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

00:05:41,850 --> 00:05:43,940 Thank you, Barbara.

108 00:05:43,940 --> 00:05:45,000